

WHAT IS A CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE?

In 1917 His Majesty King George V began the tradition of sending messages of congratulations to those of his subjects celebrating their 100th birthdays and 60th wedding anniversaries. Subsequent reigning monarchs have continued this custom.

WHEN ARE CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES ISSUED?

Congratulatory messages are issued on the following occasions:

Wedding anniversaries – The Queen sends messages to couples on the occasion of their 60th, 65th and 70th wedding anniversaries and then every year thereafter.

Birthdays – The Queen sends messages to individuals on the occasion of their 100th and 105th birthdays and then every year thereafter.

Congratulatory messages, consisting of a card from Her Majesty The Queen, come in a distinctive envelope, are sent special delivery through the Royal Mail and arrive, when possible, on the day of the anniversary.

HOW DOES SOMEONE RECEIVE A CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE?

To receive a congratulatory message contact the Centenarian and Anniversary Clerk at the address overleaf at least three weeks before the date of the anniversary. In some cases it may be possible to receive a belated message for a short time after the event.

An application can be made by an individual celebrating a birthday or wedding anniversary or by anyone acting on their behalf. **There is no charge for this service**.

THE ADDRESS FOR CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES IS...

The Centenarian and Anniversary Clerk The Executive Office Room SD20 StormontCastle Belfast BT4 3TT

Telephone: 028 9052 8193 Email: <u>admin.cab@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk</u>

